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## House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CASTEN).

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,  
July 19, 2021.

I hereby appoint the Honorable SEAN CASTEN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,  
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Holy God, bless these next weeks that lie ahead of us. In this time when resources are highly contested and the premise on which decisions are made are highly charged, grant us Your infinite wisdom and careful guidance.

Give us Your vision that we would keep our eyes straight ahead, our gaze fixed before us, that our priority would be what You would have us see: Your perfect will for us and for this country.

Then enable us to give careful thought to the paths our feet must take, that our steps would be firmly planted in Your truth.

Protect us from being derailed by foolish impulse or fall wayward from our misjudgment.

But cause us to be steadfast in our ways, that we would align with Your will, and our certainty would be grounded in faithfulness to You.

Lord, our sight, our walk, our actions, and decisions are so easily influenced by whim and worry. May this day, we remain committed to You.

In Your sovereign name we pray.  
Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. NORTON led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

### D.C. IS MORE THAN READY FOR STATEHOOD

(Ms. NORTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I come to report significant progress on D.C. statehood and to thank my colleagues for passing my bill to make the District the 51st State. I especially thank Senator GARY PETERS for holding a Senate hearing on the bill in June, only the second hearing in Senate history.

I particularly appreciate the work of Senator TOM CARPER, the lead Senate sponsor, for a record 45 Senate cosponsors.

These efforts in the House and Senate have resulted in 54 percent of the

American people now supporting D.C. statehood.

D.C. is more than ready—indeed is overqualified—for statehood. Residents pay more Federal taxes per capita than any State, more taxes than 21 States, and has a larger gross domestic product than 17 States.

The District of Columbia is well on its way to becoming our 51st State.

### AMERICAN BUSINESSES AND FAMILIES ARE AT RISK

(Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, at the grocery store and at the gas pump American families are facing a harsh new reality. Rising prices have effectively created both a tax hike and a pay cut for our workers.

At the height of summer, families are now paying 3 percent more for fruits and vegetables, 9 percent more for milk, and 18 percent more for bacon.

Instead of addressing this crisis, President Biden and liberals in Congress are doing what they always do, spending money that we don't have and asking taxpayers to cover the difference.

Another \$3.5 trillion spending bill is not what our country needs.

Passing the Green New Deal under another name will not help American families.

In Pennsylvania, inflation has harsh consequences on our local businesses like Guy Chemical in Somerset County who has seen a 30 to 50 percent rise in costs.

Let's make it clear: President Biden's failed policies are putting American businesses and American families at risk.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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### RECOGNIZING FORMER FIRST LADY MICHELLE OBAMA

(Ms. SCANLON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the important work being done by our former First Lady, Michelle Obama, through her Pass the Love campaign.

In collaboration with the Partnership for a Healthier America, Mrs. Obama has been on a mission to distribute one million healthy meals to families in need.

Last week, we learned that Philadelphia, part of my district, has been selected as the next city for this campaign.

Pass the Love will work with Philabundance—a local leader in hunger alleviation—to deliver healthy meal kits to 5,000 families. Over the course of 4 weeks, they will provide 240,000 meals to families experiencing food insecurity.

Children in Philadelphia and across America are hungry.

Creative initiatives like this one from the former First Lady should be lauded for what they do, but they cannot solve this systemic issue on their own.

Our country has every resource required to eradicate hunger. We can and must make the decision to end hunger in America now.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

### ENERGY EMERGENCY LEADERSHIP ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3119) to amend the Department of Energy Organization Act with respect to functions assigned to Assistant Secretaries, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3119

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Energy Emergency Leadership Act”.

#### SEC. 2. FUNCTIONS ASSIGNED TO ASSISTANT SECRETARIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 203(a) of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7133(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(12) Energy emergency and energy security functions, including—

“(A) responsibilities with respect to infrastructure, cybersecurity, emerging threats, supply, and emergency planning, coordination, response, and restoration; and

“(B) upon request of a State, local, or tribal government or energy sector entity, and in consultation with other Federal agencies as appropriate, provision of technical assistance, support, and response capabilities with respect to energy security threats, risks, and incidents.”.

(b) COORDINATION.—The Secretary of Energy shall ensure that the functions of the Secretary described in section 203(a)(12) of the Department of Energy Organization Act (as added by this Act) are performed in coordination with relevant Federal agencies.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 3119.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3119, the Energy Emergency Leadership Act. This legislation and the two other energy bills that will follow it are bipartisan bills that will protect our energy grid from cyberattacks. All three of these bills passed the House last Congress but were never taken up in the Senate. That must change this year as the need for this legislation becomes more important by the day.

We have heard repeatedly from security experts and regulators over the last few years that our energy infrastructure and grid are being attacked by state actors or other entities. Indeed, just 2 months ago, large parts of this country suffered from gas shortages after a ransomware attack on the Colonial Pipeline.

Former Energy Secretary Perry took the first step toward addressing the increasing risk of cyberattacks on our energy infrastructure by creating the Cybersecurity and Energy Security Emergency Response office, or CESER, as it is pronounced. He then enhanced its stature by making its leader an assistant secretary.

So H.R. 3119 would amend section 203(a) of the Department of Energy Organization Act by establishing in statute the new assistant secretary position responsible for cybersecurity and emergency response issues.

This bill also makes clear that this assistant secretary would have jurisdiction over all energy emergency and security functions related to energy supply, infrastructure, and cybersecurity.

It also vests the assistant secretary with the authority to provide DOE

technical assistance and support to State, local, or Tribal governments upon request.

And it requires the assistant secretary and the Department of Energy to coordinate with the Department of Homeland Security and other relevant Federal agencies in carrying out the bill's provisions. CESER performed this role admirably in May when it coordinated the whole-of-government response to the Colonial Pipeline attack.

By codifying an assistant secretary for cybersecurity and emergency response issues, this bill would go a long way in helping to protect the Nation's electric infrastructure from hackers and other bad actors who would attempt to disrupt our energy grid and harm our economy, our daily lives, and our overall national security. It would also appropriately raise the stature of the CESER office and provide more accountability over the vital functions with a lead person tasked with carrying them out.

I commend Energy Subcommittee Chairman BOBBY RUSH and Representative WALBERG for their bipartisan effort to protect our energy infrastructure. This bipartisan cooperation is essential as we continue to work to defend our country from the threat of cyberattacks. I also thank Ranking Member RODGERS and Energy Subcommittee Ranking Member UPTON for working with us to move this bill and the other two cybersecurity bills that will follow.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support this bipartisan bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3119, the Energy Emergency Leadership Act.

This bill, sponsored by Representatives RUSH and WALBERG, has strong bipartisan support, and passed on suspension last Congress.

The bill is necessary to strengthen the Department of Energy's important energy emergency mission.

It does so by requiring that the well-established energy emergency and cybersecurity functions at DOE are organized under the leadership of an assistant secretary confirmed by the Senate.

Three-and-one-half years ago, Secretary of Energy Perry recognized the importance of elevating this position within the Department.

He established an assistant secretary-led office, the Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response, which proved its worth in various situations over the past 2 years, including assistance relating to hurricanes and the recent Colonial Pipeline ransomware attack.

This bill amends the Department of Energy Organization Act to establish in law this assistant secretary level of leadership of DOE's emergency response and cybersecurity functions.

This bill will ensure the Department has the focused and accountable leadership to protect the public more fully